

## REMARKS

In the above-noted Office Action, claims 15 and 16 are allowed, and the remaining claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. 103 in view of the prior art references Cappel, Green, Flinker and Miyoshi. In response, Applicant has amended pending claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9-11, 13 and 14 to depend from claims 15 or 16. The remaining claims which were not amended depend directly or indirectly from claims 15 or 16.

Inasmuch as all of the pending claims depend directly or indirectly upon allowed claims 15 or 16, it is submitted that the claims pending for examination, namely claims 2-7 and 9-18 are now in condition for allowance, which early action is requested.

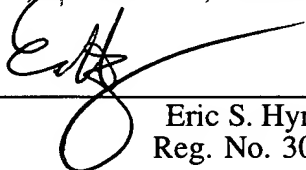
If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge those fees to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666. If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR, & ZAFMAN

Dated: April 7, 2004

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class Mail, With Sufficient Postage, In An Envelope Addressed To: Mail Stop Amendments, Non-Fee, Commissioner For Patents P.O. Box 1340, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

  
Linda Marie D'Elia

4-7-04  
April 7, 2004